

July 6th, 1925.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson,
121 George Street,
Edinburg, Scotland.

My dear Mr. Robinson:

Things continue to sail smoothly with us here in Lockport. The Daily Vacation Bible School got off to a good start this morning. The attendance was rather small, there being only 39. But we hope that the interest created this morning will raise the total attendance to 60 before the end of the week. The teachers took great hold of the work and I think excellent work will be done during the summer weeks. Miss Specht is handling the boys and girls of the age from 12 to 14 so I have no classes to teach. But I will handle the opening exercises and the closing exercises and it may be that the enrollment will be large enough so that I can take a group of boys to work with. Mrs. Davis is going to start her work with the school on Wednesday morning.

The church services yesterday were quite satisfactory. There were 213 out in the morning which seems to be a good attendance. The Bible School was rather disappointing again. It seems that the example set by the older classes in disbanding for the summer is proving rather disastrous to the morale of the school. I am doing my best, however, to rally the forces. We are trying to combine classes so that some teachers can get away for vacation and thus the work will be more interesting. In some of the classes, however, yesterday there were neither teachers or pupils. We are going to keep the thing going just as long as it is humanly possible and as long as anybody keeps coming.

Mrs. George Walker on LeVan Street has been quite seriously sick, but is some better. She seems to be having quite a serious time of it. Otherwise there is very little sickness in the congregation. You will be interested in knowing that the Rogers brought back with them from Boston last week a little boy of nine years of age, a very attractive, bright little fellow, and they are thinking some of adopting him. I was over with the Prudden's for dinner yesterday, and late in the afternoon we went down to the Y Camp on the Lake and had supper there and stayed for the campfire. I told the boys a story that they seemed to enjoy. The camp is going in excellent shape there being seventy boys there this week.

Owing to the preparations for the Daily Vacation Bible School, I did not get so much calling done last week, but I hope to resume it now in a few days again. Mr. Sewrey was here and so far as I know did not raise more than about \$500 for his work in Westminster College. Mr. Rogers gave \$150, Mr. Prudden and Mr. Burt each \$50, and there were a number of smaller gifts. I am enjoying the work here very heartily. I find the people finer every day and I hope that I will be able to help them. We need your prayers though, and let me assure you that our prayers are sent daily

2.

on your behalf. It has been quite cool here until to-day, unusually cool in fact for the month of June. To-day it seems to be making up for lost time. I hope you are having a great time this summer. Remember me kindly to Mrs. Robinson.

Very cordially yours,

July 15th, 1925.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson,
121 George Street,
Edinburg, Scotland.

My dear Mr. Robinson:

Your very kind letter reached me yesterday. You certainly must be having a great time over in old Scotia. I should liked to have made the trip with you up to Holy Rood Castle.

Our work here is moving along in good order. The Sunday services were quite well attended this last Sunday. The weather was rather hot, so we fell down to 185. Even so, the interest was good and they are a very appreciative people to preach to. The Sunday School dropped from 100 on the previous Sunday to 85 last Sunday. We are planning a re-organization this week to cover the entire Sunday School and hope by next Sunday to have it in shape. This reorganization is effective only during the summer months. I am trying to get a number of teachers to help out and to arrange a new grouping of the classes. The Prayer Meeting continues to grow. We had 37 out at the last Wednesday evening meeting. I am enclosing a copy of a draft of my first Wednesday evening address which the paper printed here. We are getting out circular letters and sending them to all the men of the congregation, hoping to interest them in the Prayer Meeting. I am also enclosing a copy of that letter. The Daily Vacation Bible School is making remarkable growth and progress. As I said in the last letter, our attendance on the first day was only 39. At the present time our enrollment has reached the 73 mark. The attendance is very good, the enthusiasm and spirit are high, and they are getting a great deal of profit out of the work. They are doing quite a bit of memory work, and the older boys and girls are making maps of the Holy Land, raised maps that show the geographical features of the land. Dramatization work is also making good progress. In working out this dramatization, Mrs. Davis is making great progress. She does not rely on fixed lines and speeches, but I first tell the story to the youngsters and get them pretty well saturated in it, then they get up and act out the part and say the lines spontaneously. We hope thus by their own criticisms to be production. It will be quite unique in that the boys and girls will not only act the part, but write the lines and arrange the stage settings as well.

Mr. J. L. Davison, Mrs. Shapleigh's father, passed away last week and was buried on Friday. Mrs. George Walker is improving somewhat but is by no means passed the danger point yet. I am making a number of calls these days and am finding quite a number of new people to come into the church next fall. Several new married couples that have come to town recently

2.

seem to be truning in our direction.

The Manse and its environments are being well taken care of these days. Mrs. McCormick comes every week and keeps things spick and span. The pink roses and the crimson ramblers in the rear of the house are still very beautiful. The other flowers have passed their prime. Mrs. Prudden has very kindly consented to invite Miss Goodhart, my fiance, to spend a week with them in August. I think she will come up. It will be a great experience for her and needless to say I will enjoy it. The people here have been great to me. Almost every evening I have an invitation out to dinner. Recently I was over at the Poole's and at the Roger's, and this week I am to be with the Prudden's and the McIlhenny and Mr. Charles Rogers down at Olcott Beach. The weather is quite cool and comfortable and I am having a most happy summer all the way through. You are right in assuming that my appetite for pastoral work will be whetted by this experience. I cannot give up the idea of ultimately going into the pastorate. Nevertheless I do feel as though I would like to finish my work for the ~~work~~orate since I have started it. I do appreciate however, your kindness in recommending me to the White Plains Church.

Next week is Old Home Week and the people here are getting ready for a big celebration. The new Palace Theater is to be opened Saturday evening with a showing of the Ten Commandments. I recommended the picture very highly to the people last Sunday morning. It is well worth everyones effort to see it. I hope you have a continued happiness during your summer vacation and the most pleasant of experiences.

Very cordially yours,

July 20th, 1925.

Rev. Stewart M. Robinson,
121 George Street,
Edinburg, Scotland.

My dear Mr. Robinson:

Yesterday was a very full day in every respect. In the morning I went out to the Boy Scouts Camp and conducted their morning religious service for them at 8:30. Then I came back in and we had the church service. There was quite a crowd out there-being 318 present. Emphasis had been made through the papers on the beginning of Old Home Week with religious services and everyone was urged to come to church. The Sunday School showed some encouraging features yesterday. There was an excellent spirit and no drop in attendance, there-being the same number out as there were the Sunday previous. In the afternoon I had a funeral out in the country, a Mrs. Thrall. Her daughter is Mrs. Salmons of West Ave. Then in the evening we had the Union Service in the High School auditorium. The room was filled and the service was very interesting and helpful. I had an opportunity of meeting the other ministers of the city and found them excellent men. One of the ministers in the course of his address paid special tribute to the First Presbyterian Church. He was reviewing the religious history of the city and he said that probably the First Presbyterian Church has exerted a larger influence on the life of this city than any other single factor. He was an Episcopalian too.

Old Home Week will occupy the center of Lockport's attention during these coming days. The School Parade is to be held this afternoon and to-morrow is Mardi Gras Day. We are not allowing the Old Home Week to interfere with the Daily Vacation Bible School. We held forth for an hour this morning and then on Wednesday resume full activities. The boys and girls are keeping up their interest in the work in fine shape. Mrs. Davis is making good progress and we fully expect to put on our two dramas, the one of Moses, and the other of Joseph, a week from Friday evening. Wednesday school will close. This morning the attendance was cut down a little by the interest in the School Parade this afternoon. We only had 46 out. But last week the average attendance was around 65. The maximum enrollment is 73.

The Prayer Meeting shows good results. Last Wednesday evening we had an attendance of 40. I sent out the circular letters and we had twelve men out to Prayer Meeting, which is quite encouraging. Three young fellows played some music. We had a cellist, a pianist, and a violinist. I think I will keep up this special music feature during the coming weeks. At present we fully expect to keep up both the Prayer Meeting and the Sunday School throughout the summer so that interest will not wane entirely.

I have been having no trouble at all with the Ford. I am gas and oil supply scrupulously, and it is working beautiful. Yesterday morning, however, I was dismayed by a flat tire. That, however, can soon be

2.

remedied.

I hope that you and Mrs. Robinson are continuing to enjoy your weeks abroad. Let me say again that I am certainly enjoying my work here in Lockport. The people are royal and everyday is full of happiness and pleasure.

Very cordially yours,

July 23rd 1925

Rev Stuart Robinson

1st Presbyterian Church Lickport N.Y.

My Dear Sir

This is ~~my~~ first letter of association
in Radio.

My wife and I. were delighted with
your address last evening, we had
just turned away from a local (grand stand)
broadcast. It was a troublesome night
for hearing, but your message came in
clear and strong. I might just add
Pauls gospel is the only message that
will do sinners good.

We shall follow your messages with
prayer, May the Lord Bless you.

Yours sincerely

J. P. Bark.